



Divide and Conquer

OSU student athletes in CEAT balance studies with sports

PHOTOGRAPHY / UNIVERSITY MARKETING

Hard work. Dedication. Time management. Commitment. Success.

Students at Oklahoma State University learn the true meaning of these words while preparing for degrees in engineering, architecture and technology. But a select group has the drive to excel both in the classroom and as a student athlete.

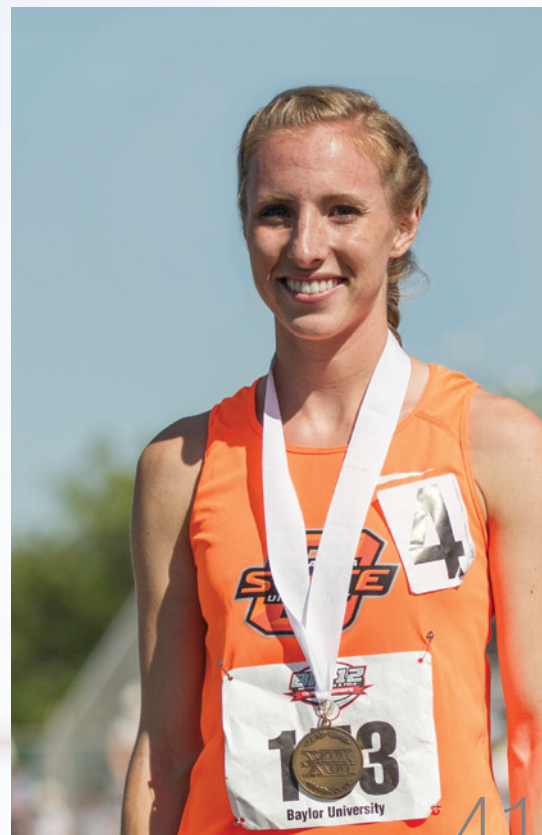
DEVIN HEDGEPEETH, an industrial engineering and management student and a cornerback on OSU's **FOOTBALL** team, says being a student athlete in a demanding academic discipline is rewarding, as you have to continually push yourself to be the best.

"The greatest challenge is finding the right balance between your respective sport and school," says Hedgepeth. "Organization is a key skill that has helped me. I have learned to flip the 'football switch' when on the field, and then flip the 'school switch' in the classroom."

Hedgepeth's top performances off the field led to being selected as a top 10 finalist for the 2013 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar Award, presented by *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* magazine and co-sponsored by NCAA.

"My athletic training has had a major effect on my preparation for a career in engineering," he says. "I have taken the discipline and hunger necessary to play football and applied it directly to the classroom and my life. I want to pursue an MBA after I graduate. Project management is the field that interests me."

Hedgepeth is not alone in putting in the extra time to represent both OSU and the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology.



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KATE KUJAWA, a mechanical and aerospace engineering student, is a successful **TRACK AND FIELD** athlete.

"I chose to attend OSU because the track and field coach here is arguably the best distance running coach in the NCAA," she says.

The nationally recognized mechanical and aerospace engineering program also helped make OSU a logical choice for Kujawa, the daughter of two engineers.

"I have recently decided I would like to apply my education in the renewable energy field," says Kujawa. "I think my education will prepare me well for a career in this industry."

CONTINUES



TAYLOR NEW, an industrial engineering and management student who is on the national champion **EQUESTRIAN** team, has learned the value of hard work and being able to appropriately divide her time between competition and sports.

“I feel the greatest challenge is time management and having the motivation to push through a busy schedule,” says New. “It can become difficult to please professors and coaches, while trying to be successful in both areas.”

She was recruited by several top institutions for her abilities and says it was the team dynamics, campus, future opportunities and overall environment that brought her to OSU.

“I believe OSU has prepared me for my future career through the daily grind of workouts, practice, class, studying and traveling,” says New. “This does not allow me to procrastinate, and ultimately, this demanding schedule has helped foster a strong work ethic.”



New has always known she wanted to be an engineer. She has accepted a position at ExxonMobil Development Co. as a project cost engineer and wants to work in the project management area.

“I believe the most beneficial aspect I have learned from my engineering education at OSU is to problem solve — finding the best possible solution within the current situation,” she says.

“I have always wanted to study architecture,” he says. “OSU had the best combination of an award-winning and top-ranking architecture school with a highly talented and respected cheerleading program.”

Miller plans to own an architecture firm in the future and possibly teach later in his career.

And he is not the only student aspiring to own a business.

TAYLOR BUCK, a mechanical engineering technology student who focuses on the **HIGH JUMP** in track and field, hopes to own a company in the oil and gas industry one day. It was the hands-on instruction he has received that helped shape this goal.

“I knew I wanted to become an engineer and also wanted to learn with my hands rather than just simply a classroom setting,” says Buck.

He credits his upbringing in a very athletic family with the desire to push himself in everything, not just track and field events.

“Once I start something, I’m going to finish it and be the best that I can along the way,” says Buck. “This attitude has helped in my engineering education as well.”

CHRISTIEN SAGER, an electrical engineering student, says his OSU engineering education has laid the foundation for his future aspirations.



SEAN MILLER, an architecture student, credits OSU with teaching him how to balance commitments as an athlete and still have time to produce quality work as a student and young professional.

Miller is a member of the OSU **CHEER SQUAD** that won the national title this year. But it was the architecture program that sparked his initial interest in OSU




“I plan to be a professional engineer,” says Sager. “I plan to focus in the field of signal processing.”

OSU’s **BASKETBALL** team was the main attraction for Sager, who went from being a walk-on his first year to earning a one-year scholarship from the team in 2012. Still, his impressive talents and interest in engineering have helped him maintain a 4.0 GPA.

He says it takes a lot of dedication to juggle both commitments, especially with basketball taking more than 30 hours a week outside the classroom.

“Sometimes you have to work when you don’t want to,” says Sager. “You have to work well with others day in and day out. A successful engineer has to as well.”

CEAT is full of success stories involving students pushing the boundaries of achievement. Whether in the classroom, research lab or sporting arena, these students represent the talent and personal drive employers have come to expect from OSU graduates.

“I look forward to one day representing OSU on an even larger platform — whatever that may be,” says Hedgepeth. 

 WRAVENNA BLOOMBERG

Other OSU athletes in CEAT

- THOMAS ANDERSON Chemical engineering FOOTBALL
- REED BASTIE Mechanical engineering BASEBALL
- BLAKE BROM Civil engineering BASEBALL
- TRACE CLARK Mechanical engineering FOOTBALL
- FABIAN CLARKSON Aerospace engineering CROSS COUNTRY
- MASON COX Mechanical engineering BASKETBALL
- LANCE GRAY Mechanical engineering CROSS COUNTRY
- SHADRACK KIPCHIRCHIR Construction management technology CROSS COUNTRY
- TAYLOR LIGHT Aerospace engineering CROSS COUNTRY
- JONAH LUND Fire protection and safety technology SPIRIT SQUAD
- NATANYA LUTHER Construction management technology CROSS COUNTRY
- NATE MILLER Construction management technology FOOTBALL
- ALEX MONAGHAN Mechanical engineering CROSS COUNTRY
- TAYLOR MOODY Industrial engineering and management SPIRIT SQUAD
- GLORIA MOSELEY Mechanical engineering TRACK AND FIELD
- LOGAN NAULT Aerospace engineering FOOTBALL
- ARCHIBALD OCLOO-LEE Mechanical engineering technology FOOTBALL
- TEVIN TALTON Civil engineering FOOTBALL
- NICK THORP Mechanical engineering CROSS COUNTRY





Austin Miller (from left), Kelly Nugent, Tessa Morgan, Kimberly Sookbang and Chase Colvin were among Camp Bullet's first attendees.

Pistols Firing

New Camp Bullet introduces students to petroleum engineering

The petroleum industry offers limitless opportunities for students and future professionals in exploration, drilling, production, manufacturing and engineering. With the new petroleum engineering minor at Oklahoma State University, students interested in this field can get a unique, hands-on education.

CLINT AICHELE, assistant professor in the School of Chemical Engineering at OSU, has a deep passion for petroleum engineering. With his previous experience in the industry and his relevant research projects, Aichele is helping propel the petroleum engineering minor forward — most especially with the inaugural Camp Bullet.

Initiated and sponsored by Halliburton, Camp Bullet provides an unmatched experience for the industry's next generation of leaders.

“This camp was designed to introduce students to the oil and gas industry through interactive demonstrations in the field and classroom lectures,” says Aichele. “It provided the students with a back-stage tour of actual operations that support the global oil and gas industry.”

Not only did Camp Bullet offer students a great opportunity to learn from and network with Halliburton leaders, but Halliburton was able to invest in and interact with potential future employees.